

REMARKS

Prior to entry of this paper, Claims 1-25 and 28-29 were pending. Claims 1-25 and 28-29 were rejected. In this paper, Claim 21 is amended. Claims 1-25 and 28-29 are currently pending. No new matter is added by way of this amendment. For at least the following reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the presently pending claims is in condition for allowance.

Claim Objections (Claims 1 and 14)

Claim 1 was objected to as the recitation “the application” lacking antecedent basis. The objection is respectfully traversed.

The recitation “the application that is associated with the at least one archive that is associated with the e-mail address” in Claim 1 has antecedent basis in the recitation “each of the at least one archive of e-mails being based on a different application from a first application used to initiate the searching” of Claim 1. The recitation “each of the at least one archive of e-mails being based on a different application from a first application used to initiate the searching” establishes that each archive of emails is associated with an application. Therefore, any of the archives of emails has an application that is associated with the archive. Therefore, “the application that is associated with the at least one archive that is associated with the e-mail address” has appropriate antecedent basis.

Claim 14 was objected to as the recitations “the organization folder” and “the electronic addresses book” lacking antecedent basis. The objection is respectfully traversed.

The antecedent basis for “the organization folder” in Claim 14, line 3 is found in the recitation of “an organizational folder” on Claim 14, line 2.

The antecedent basis for “the electronic address book” in Claim 14 is found in Claim 9, line 9.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101 (Claims 16-17)

Claim 16-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

First, Claim 16 specifically recites, “An apparatus”. “An apparatus” is one of the four statutory classes. Even assuming arguendo that the various “means” recited in Claim 16 could be

construed as software per se, absent the recitation "An apparatus", the fact the claim specifically recites "An apparatus" removes the possibility that Claim 16 is claiming software per se; rather, it requires that the subject matter of Claim 16 be an apparatus.

Additionally, the Claim 16 includes elements such as "means for filtering configured to receives the at least one e-mail address", "means for adding configured to add the at least one email address to the address book", and "means for scanning ... configured to search one or more archives for at least one email address". Software per se cannot receive an email address, add an email address to an address book, or search for an email address. Software cannot possibly do these things if it is not embodied on a computer readable media. Software is not configured to receive an email address, configured to perform a search, or configured to search for an email address, unless it is embodied on a computer-readable media in such a way that it can actually perform those functions. Software pseudo code written on a piece of paper that is directed toward performing a search is not "configured to perform a search".

Further, the Office Action states, "in view of specification, Examiner does not find the physical **recital of structure** as a means of step for performing the specified function" (emphasis in original). However, the physical recital of structure was specifically pointed out in the last response, and partially quoted by the Examiner in the last Office Action. It is unclear why the Examiner does not view a system including one or more processors, which includes the software within computer memory including program code executable by one or more processors, as not being a physical recital of structure. Moreover, as stated above, the various "means" would have to be embodied on a computer-readable medium in order to actually be **configured** to perform functions such as "search one or more archives for at least one email address". Software per se cannot possibly be configured to search for at least one email address until is actually embodied on a computer-readable medium.

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections to Claims 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 should be withdrawn, and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (Claims 1-25 and 28-29)

Claims 1-6 and 9-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tafoya et al. (US Patent 6,952,805, hereinafter "Tafoya") in view of Huang (US Patent Publication 2003/0231207, hereinafter "Huang"). Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tafoya and Huang as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Cresswell et al. (U.S. Patent 6,564,264, hereinafter "Cresswell"). Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tafoya and Huang as applied to claim 6 above, and further in view of Harms et al. (U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0078981, hereinafter "Harms"). Claims 28-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Que ("**Special Edition Using Microsoft Outlook 2002**", Publisher Que, June, 2001) in view of Tafoya et al., and further in view of Huang. Each of these rejections is respectfully traversed.

First, Claim 1 is respectfully submitted to be allowable at least because neither Tafoya nor Huang, singly or in combination, discloses or teaches the recitation, "the e-mail address is added to a folder within the electronic address book, such that the folder is with the application that is associated with the at least one archive that is associated with the e-mail address", as recited in Applicants' Claim 1.

The Office Action states, "Tafoya discloses wherein the e-mail address is added to a folder within the electronic address book (col. 7, lines 36-54, col. 11, lines 51-54, col. 12, lines 60-61)."

The sections that the Office refers to make it unclear whether the Office intends that the folders such as "inbox" and "sent items" of Tafoya is viewed as being the recited folders within the electronic address, or whether the Office views the "resolution list" of Tafoya as the recited electronic address book. Column 7, lines 36-54 of Tafoya have to do with folders such as "inbox" and "sent item". Column 11, lines 51-54 and column 12, lines 60-61 of Tafoya have to do with the resolution list.

If the Office is using folders such as "inbox" and "sent items" as the recited folders within the address book, then the proposed combination fails to meet the claim recitations, because folders such as the "inbox" and "sent items" are the places that the emails are extracted from in Tafoya, not the place where the e-mail addresses are added. If folders such as "inbox" in Tafoya are being used by the Office as the "electronic address book", then the proposed combination fails to meet many

It is respectfully submitted that each of the presently pending claims (Claims 1-25 and 28-29) is in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is requested. Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' representative at the below-listed telephone number if it is believed that the prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby. Although only certain arguments regarding patentability are set forth herein, there may be other arguments and reasons why the claimed invention is patentable. Applicant reserves the right to raise these arguments in the future.

~~Respectfully submitted,~~

By

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